

# CHINA MAIL

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## CHINA PUZZLE Peace Story A Trifle Premature

CHUNGKING, DEC. 23. THE LATEST DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA'S CIVIL WAR ALREADY LOOKS LIKE FIZZLING OUT IN THE INTER-PARTY HAGGLE LIKE SO MANY OF ITS PREDECESSORS. SHORTLY BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON DEC. 20, CORRESPONDENTS IMAGINED THEMSELVES AS WRITING NEXT DAY SUCH LINES AS "PEACE IN SIGHT" OR "WITHIN A FEW HOURS OF WAR IN CHINA WILL BE OVER."

## Joe E. Brown A Killer---Of Japs

COLUMBUS, OHIO, DEC. 23. THE FAMOUS COMEDIAN JOE E. BROWN TODAY CONFIRMED HE HAD KILLED TWO JAPANESE IN A NORTH DUTCH FORAY LAST JUNE DURING A TANK ATTACK ON THE TOWN OF HAMBURG.

The incident was disclosed by Maj. Gen. Robert S. Beightler, commander of the 47th division, and Brown reluctantly confirmed it.

The famous actor said: "Maybe some people will think I shouldn't have done it. I only was doing what everyone else was doing, trying to help win the war. Besides the Japs were shooting at me."

Beightler said Brown insisted on staying at the front, so he finally asked the comedian if he would like to participate in the capture of a Japanese tank. Brown popped out of the lead tank and began firing a machine gun at the Japanese.

When the skirmish was over, Brown and a colonel had a friendly argument over who killed the two Japanese. The colonel insisted it was Brown. The comedian carried the two bodies back to the rear.

## Sino-Russian Negotiations

PEIPING, DEC. 23. THE NEWS OF THE ARRIVAL IN CHINA OF THE NEW U.S. AMBASSADOR, GENERAL GEORGE C. MARSHALL, SPEEDED THE TOUCHY CHINESE-RUSSIAN NEGOTIATIONS OVER THE OCCUPATION OF MANCHURIA WHICH HAVE ALREADY EXTENDED A MONTH LONGER THAN WAS ORIGINALLY EXPECTED.

Within the past 48 hours, special emissaries, who reported to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek in Nanking, have returned to Manchuria.

The Chinese administrators designated for Harbin, Mukden and Dairen who cooled their heels in Peiping for weeks headed north to take over their posts.

There was no indication that Central Government troops would occupy Mukden soon. Associated Press.

## VIOLENT STORMS IN PORTUGAL

LISBON, DEC. 23. A VIOLENT CYCLONE FOLLOWED BY AN EARTH TREMOR DESTROYED SCORES OF HOUSES AND FISH CANNERIES IN ALHAI, PROVINCE OF ALGARVE, FAMED MOORISH CITY IN SOUTH PORTUGAL. THE NEWSPAPER "DIARIO DE NOTICIAS" SAID TODAY.

Several were injured and one man was killed, the reports said, and thousands of workers were jobless and a number made homeless.

To-day marked the fourth day that the storms have swept the coast of Portugal, flooding several towns, villages and the lower districts of Lisbon.

Five persons have been killed and several hundred injured. Associated Press.

Madrid, Dec. 23. Nine passengers were killed and 71 others injured when the Madrid-Barcelona express train and a locomotive collided near Guadalajara. Associated Press.

An official spokesman of the Communist Headquarters gave out that the Communist Party had proposed immediate unconditional cease fire -- a national armistice. It transpired that the "proposal" was made by the number two Communist General, Chou En-lai, at a dinner given by the Communists to Shao Li-tze, former Ambassador to Russia and one of the eight Kuomintang delegates to the Political Consultative Council.

The Government spokesman since reiterated that the Communists had "not made the proposal, officially or formally to the Central Government."

He described the Communist release as propaganda, recalling that when two months ago the Government proposed that both sides issue cease fire orders, the Communist reply was a request to the Government to issue such an order to its forces without mentioning the operations of Communist troops.

In defence of the Communists, it should be pointed out that Foreign Minister Dr. Wang Shih-chieh and the Governor of Szechuan, General Chuan Chun, were also invited to the dinner. It is possible that their inability to attend may have deprived the function of any official status it might otherwise have had.

NOT CONFIRMED. The Communists, up to a late hour that day, would not confirm that they were submitting proposals, "formally and in writing" to the Central Government, though they indicated that they probably would.

Whether they do or not, the Communist newspaper, "New China Daily News" has charged the Kuomintang with "upholding dictatorship" and being determined to carry out civil war. The editorial suggested that the civil war be stopped without delay and unconditionally so that the Kuomintang monopolized government be recognized and that the Kuomintang and Communist troops be nationalized. Reuter.

## THE WEATHER

To-day's forecast:—Moderate to fresh easterly winds. Cloudy with occasional slight rain. Rather cold. Yesterday's temperature:—Maximum:—49 degrees, at noon. Minimum:—32 degrees, at 10 p.m.

## British Move To Protect Investors

PRAGUE, DEC. 23. BRITAIN HAS ASKED CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO PAY IN POUNDS STERLING FOR NATIONALISED INDUSTRIES IN WHICH BRITISH CAPITAL IS INVESTED, A FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN DISCLOSED TODAY.

IN A NOTE HANDED TO THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN GOVERNMENT BY THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR IN PRAGUE, BRITAIN HAS ASKED FOR AN ASSURANCE OF "ADEQUATE COMPENSATION" AND MADE IT CLEAR THAT CZECH CROWNS WERE NOT REGARDED AS ADEQUATE SINCE THEY WERE NOT ACCEPTABLE OUTSIDE CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

British investments include the big Skoda plant, Imperial Chemical Industries and Unilever.

The Foreign Office spokesman said that parallel representations may have been made by the United States.

It was understood that the British note did not raise objections to the nationalization, as such, but insisted that British investors be protected.

The note suggested that a decision by Czechoslovakia not to pay in pounds sterling might have an adverse influence on the future of British credits and British purchases of Czechoslovakian products.

The Foreign Office spokesman said Prague had acknowledged the note but had made no formal reply. Associated Press.

## Bevin Not Optimistic

Moscow, Dec. 23.

Informed sources report that the "big three" foreign ministers have achieved a measure of success in their conference on world problems, including re-establishment of their wartime co-operative spirit.

U.S. Secretary of State Byrnes was reported as feeling there has been a major accomplishment in that regard, but British Foreign Secretary Bevin was reported as not being so optimistic over eventual results. Associated Press.

## Patton To Lie With His Men

HEIDELBERG, DEC. 23. A SOLDIER'S BURIAL ON ONE OF THE BATTLEFIELDS ON WHICH HE LED HIS TROOPS IS BEING PLANNED FOR GEN. GEORGE S. PATTON BUT THE SITE HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED DEFINITELY.

It was believed, however, that the brilliant former Third Army commander who died Friday evening of complications from automobile accident injuries would be interred at Metz or Frankfurt. One of the greatest triumphs of his troops was the capture of the fort at Metz for the first time in the city's 1,000 year military history.

Mrs. Patton has conferred with Army officials on the burial site and other funeral arrangements. Flares flew at half mast throughout the American-occupied zone of Germany. Associated Press.

## Xmas Headaches For Mr. Attlee

LONDON, DEC. 23. THE BRITISH ARE CELEBRATING THEIR FIRST CHRISTMAS IN SEVEN YEARS, BUT FOR PRIME MINISTER CLEMENT ATTLEE AND HIS GOVERNMENT, THE COMING HOLIDAYS ARE FULL OF TROUBLESOME PROBLEMS.

OUTSTANDING PROBLEM IS THE CONTINUED UNDECLARED WARFARE IN JAVA, WHERE MOUNTING BRITISH CASUALTIES HAVE ATTRACTED SHARP CRITICISM.

Military leaders want increased forces but Attlee's Government is reluctant to approve unless the Dutch show they are willing to settle their dispute with the Indonesian leaders.

Half a dozen other headaches are also plaguing Britain.

The matter of Spain is pressing. Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin told the House of Commons on Dec. 5 that Franco's regime was "detected" by His Majesty's Government but the Foreign Office has withheld comment on the Paris note sounding out Britain and America on a possible severance of relations with Madrid.

The situation in Greece also is critical. With increasing inflationary threats, economic chaos is certain unless financial bulwarks are obtained.

Discussions of the troubled Iran affairs are going on in Moscow but there is no indication of Soviet withdrawal from the Azerbaijan province.

## DEBATE DEMAND

Meanwhile, the House of Commons is demanding a debate in early January on the Palestine issue, and Bevin tentatively has agreed.

The issue of Indian independence is also engaging parliamentary attention, and an announcement of a joint parliamentary committee to visit India is expected soon.

Attlee's five month old regime successfully rode out of its first political storm. The Opposition course was defeated, 381 to 197, and critics were soundly whipped last week on the American Loan and Bretton Woods Monetary Plan, as well as on the nationalization of the Bank of England.

Nationalization of British coal mines will be debated in the House of Commons late next month. Associated Press.

MUSSOLINI'S SON TRIED. Vittorio Mussolini, son of the late Benito Mussolini, and former editor of the newspaper "Popolo d'Italia," will go on trial at Milan today. Associated Press.

Honolulu, Dec. 23. Over 2,000 Koreans to-day, said for Japan, Korea, aboard the transport "General Ernest." Associated Press.

## America Learning All About Japan

TOKYO, DEC. 23. WHEN THE OCCUPATION OF JAPAN IS CONCLUDED, AMERICAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES WILL KNOW MORE ABOUT THE COUNTRY AND THE WAYS OF THE NIPPONESE THAN ANYONE EVER HAS KNOWN ABOUT THEM BEFORE. MAJ. GEN. CHARLES WILLOUGHBY, GENERAL MACARTHUR'S ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, SAID TODAY.

SOME OF THE THINGS WHICH HE LISTED AS HAVING BEEN LEARNED TO DATE ARE:

Japan developed an airborne antiaircraft circling torpedo which had possibilities as a weapon, but because the nations had no gyroscopic control units, work on it was stopped.

Reports that the Japanese troops used highly effective camouflage face paint for scouts and jungle patrols were false.

The Japanese army never was able to reach its goal of one dental officer for each regiment although 5,000 civilian dentists were drafted into the army as privates.

The Germans gave the basic plans for production of jet-propelled airplanes and rockets and the Japanese immediately built plants, but the shortage of skilled engineers and raw materials kept the plants from ever producing more than 25 per cent of theoretical capacity.

Prince Fumimaro Konoye, who committed suicide on Dec. 16, told occupation force officers that he knew from the first that the war with the United States was hopeless and most Japanese leaders realized the cause was lost when Salanan fell.

He told authorities his only objective in China was to offer leadership to the Chinese in realizing their desire as a great Oriental people and he had no thought of depriving them of political or economic independence at the time of the "China incident."

MORALE DROPPED. Konoye said he considered it unfortunate that the Chinese

## JAPS. GETTING SOME OF OWN MEDICINE

URAGA, JAPAN, DEC. 23. IT'S ALMOST CHRISTMAS AT HOME THE SEASON OF GOOD CHEER, BUT HERE IN JAPAN GAUNT, HUNGARY TROOPS WHO FOUGHT FOR THE EMPEROR ARE RETURNING TO A GRIM, CHEERLESS SCENE. SOME COLLAPSE FROM HUNGER AND WEAKNESS AS THEY STAND IN LINE.

THESE ARE THE MEN WHO DID GARRISON DUTY ON THE CONTINENT AND FOR THE FOUR MONTHS SINCE HOSTILITIES CEASED THEY HAVE BEEN "LIVING OFF THE LAND." THEY ARE COMING HOME FOR DEMOBILISATION IN A LAND THAT HOLDS LITTLE COMFORT FOR THEM.

As they climbed down the sides of the transports that brought them back, they see the sleek liner "Matsonia" nearby. On board the "Matsonia" were 1,100 Japanese-Americans from the United States, who had renounced their American citizenship.

Beside the dock where the troops land is a barracks. There they wait patiently for abstract for trucks to move them to a separation centre two miles away.

Every few minutes you hear a little commotion as some soldier who can stand no longer collapses. A Japanese nurse jabs a needle into the unconscious man and he is put into a truck on a stretcher.

BITTER LOT. This is entirely a Japanese operation. There are no American personnel helping.

The Japanese soldiers are 40 to 50 pounds underweight. Their cheeks are hollow. There are untreated sores on their lips. They are silent and patient like living dead.

On the "Matsonia" it has been different. The repatriated Nisei have been eating American food and living in comparative luxury.

But this morning they came ashore in snow and marched down the road to unheated, windowless barracks.

Now they are Japanese, sharing the bitter lot of a defeated nation. Associated Press.

## BARRACKS TRAGEDY

U.S. SIXTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS.

KYOTO, DEC. 23.

TWELVE AMERICAN OFFICERS AND MEN PERISHED AND 22 OTHERS SUFFERED BURNS IN A DENOUGH TO REQUIRE HOSPITALISATION IN A "FLASH" FIRE WHICH DESTROYED A TWO-STORY FRAME BARRACKS HOUSING THE 24TH DIVISION'S 24TH MEDICAL BATTALION ON SHIKOKU.

Origin of the fire was undetermined. The names of the victims were not announced.

The flames broke out at 6 a.m. and consumed the barracks in 10 minutes. Bodies of the victims were found huddled near a stairway around the windows, indicating a desperate attempt to escape. Scores of others were treated for burns not severe enough to require hospitalisation. An investigation was launched immediately.

It was the costliest tragedy thus far in the occupation. The fire was discovered by a guard walking his post before dawn. Fanned by a strong wind, the flames roared out of control and spread to a number of adjoining buildings despite the prompt arrival of a fire truck.

As dense smoke cut off escape down the stairways, many who were trapped on the second floor smashed windows and leaped 30 feet to the ground, suffering broken limbs and lacerations. Associated Press.

## Show-Down Near In Korea

SEOUL, DEC. 23.

ADDRESSING OVER 40,000 PERSONS AS THE HIGH-POINT WELCOME HOME OCELEBRATION FOR THE LONG EXILED "PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT," PRESIDENT KIM KOO PLEADED FOR UNIFICATION OF KOREA'S POLITICAL FACTIONS.

The rightist so-called democratic party predominated in the celebration arrangements. Conspicuously absent from the parade and reception were the liberal peoples' army, communist party and representatives of the peoples' republic organization.

Major-General Archer L. Lorch, Military Governor, attended.

It is becoming increasingly evident that a show-down is approaching between the provisional government newly returned from Chungking and the peoples' republic for the control of Korea.

The American Military Government is scrupulously trying to avoid favouring any faction but the leftist group is renewing charges that the American Government is favouring conservative elements. Associated Press.

## Grim Picture

Budapest, Dec. 23.

Wholehearted famine in Hungary this winter "seems unavoidable," Food Minister Karoly Daranyos said today. Daranyos, who is a member of the Small Holders Party, said that the Chief Medical Officer in Budapest has presented "terrifying statistics with mortality exceeding birth over 50 per cent and illness widespread through malnutrition and starvation." Associated Press.

## Afraid They Wouldn't Understand

KWAJALEIN, DEC. 23. JAPANESE REAR-ADMIRAL SHIGEMITSU SAKAIBARA ADMITTED THAT HE HAD ORDERED THE EXECUTION OF 98 AMERICAN CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF PAN-AMERICAN AIRWAYS ON WAKE ISLAND, ON OCT. 7, 1943.

On trial with his executive officer on charges of murder, Sakaibara told a Military Commission here yesterday that he had lied to the American investigators when he said under oath that the prisoners had been killed by American bombs and Japanese sentries when they tried to escape. He said: "I am afraid the Americans would not understand the true story."

He asserted that the slaying by firing squads was a matter of military necessity because of the dangers of prisoners aiding the force which the Japanese expected to invade the island. He said the day before the civilians were killed an air raid had destroyed his airplanes and damaged many guns leading him to believe that invasion was imminent. He said the prisoners received better food than the Japanese.

The prosecution has rested its case. Associated Press.

## Britain Recognises New Yugo-Slav Rulers

WASHINGTON, DEC. 23. THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN FORMALLY RECOGNISED THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA YESTERDAY. THE AMERICAN STATEMENT SAID THE RECOGNITION SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS APPROVAL OF THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES OR METHODS OF ASSUMING CONTROL OR ITS FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT THE GUARANTEE OF PERSONAL FREEDOM WHICH IT PROMISED ITS PEOPLE.

In recognising the regime headed by Josip Broz, better known as Tito, the United States and Britain thus gave legal sanction to the liquidation of another of Europe's rapidly vanishing monarchies.

King Peter was ousted on Nov. 20 by a law rushed through the constituent assembly. Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson said in instructions sent to Ambassador Richard C. Patterson, Jr., and made public by the State Department that the Yugoslav Government had not made good its pledges to extend basic freedoms to its people.

The elections of Nov. 11, he said, did not provide a free choice of representatives for the assembly.

Patterson was told to emphasise that the American people and Government have "only the friendliest sentiments" toward the Yugoslavs and expect developments to make possible desirable political and economic relations. Associated Press.

## Japanese P.W.'s Stoned

Manila, Dec. 23.

Filipinos should cease stoning Japanese prisoners of war or run the risk of being shot by the American military police, Colonel Josiah P. Holland, Provost Marshal, wrote to the Manila Municipal Council.

At every army camp at Manila and others on Luzon and Leyte, Japanese soldiers are polling the grounds and removing debris from ruined buildings.

They are guaranteed protection under the terms of the Geneva Convention. Associated Press.

## TEHERAN REPORT

Teheran, Dec. 23.

A General Staff officer here today stated that there were reports of the "presence of armed civilians and a concentration of Russian tanks and troops at Garmsar" about 76 miles south-east of Teheran. Associated Press.

## "HECTOR" RAISED

Columbo, Dec. 23.

The wreck of H.M.S. "Hector," which was hit and sunk by Japanese aircraft in Colombo Harbour, has been refloated.

It will be beached until arrangements are made to dispose of it. Reuter.

## No Democracy In The Army

HONOLULU, DEC. 23.

THE ARMY NEWSPAPER "STARS AND STRIPES" IN ITS LATEST ISSUE SHARPLY CRITICISED THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES AS UNDEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS "FOSTERING AN ARISTOCRACY-PERMANENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN."

The editorial advocated equal treatment and said the relationship has "a counterpart nowhere else in American life and it is notably at odds with American ideals of equality and democracy."

It alleged that the inequalities were causing thousands of men to return to their homes hating and detesting military life. It suggested that a partial remedy would be treatment of officers and enlisted men alike after working hours. Associated Press.

## POLICE DRAGNET IN YORKSHIRE

OLDHAM, DEC. 23.

HUNDREDS OF POLICE FROM OLDHAM IN LANCASHIRE, AS WELL AS POLICE FROM THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE, TODAY JOINED FORCES IN ONE OF THE BIGGEST CHECK-UPS EVER ATTEMPTED IN ENGLAND.

They throw a net of many square miles over the moorland territory in the Yorkshire-Lancashire border. Motorists were stopped and their cars searched and pedestrians were asked to produce their identity cards.

Reason for the operation was the increasing numbers of large-scale poultry thefts in the area, and Food Ministry officials co-operated in the search.

The police swoon resulted in the arrest of many found in the possession of poultry. Reuter.

## TOKYO DEVASTATION

Tokyo, Dec. 23.

One year after the first Superfortress raids on Japan, the metropolitan police board revealed 605,338 homes or buildings within the metropolitan area were destroyed. The report, published by Kyodo, said the number of families which lost their homes totalled 1,126,000 while the over-all damage approximated 5,763,000 yen. Associated Press.



## THE CHINA MAIL

Registered Office:  
Windsor House,  
1st floor,  
Des Voeux Road, C.  
Hong Kong

Telephone: 2212, 2434 & 33923

Managing Editor: W. J. Keates

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## A Dying Habit

"I have two doctors," wrote Professor Tsevelian in the out-  
set of an essay which still com-  
municates the thrill of walking  
and talking, the sun down,  
"my right leg and my left." It  
may be suspected that such doc-  
tors have in late years lost their  
verge. Soldiers, these days  
seem to have as little as possible  
to do with them, and the world  
is the poorer for the lack of  
good new marching songs. Con-  
firmed walkers are but human,  
and only the harder of them  
have continued to face with  
equanimity the handicaps of  
being that way. In England,  
many solitary walkers are  
found in a country walk at the  
week end, and once a ritual,  
which to urban sedentary was  
allowed to break an old habit  
decided in a town. They  
have one foot in the city and  
one in town, and there is in  
some ways the most lamentable  
detriment of all. They have  
been added to the demoralizing  
in the case of neighborly born and  
bred to country ways. When  
Sir Max Beerholm had the  
hardship to assist the walk-  
ing for walking's sake was a  
form of exercise which slipped  
the most brilliant brain they  
took it for granted that there was  
nothing as amusing as a long  
walk, cooked at Mr. Holmes  
Liddle and his clan, clanking  
his and his school. They had  
not themselves long been vil-  
lagers before they became an  
uncomfortably aware that by walk-  
ing ten miles to no obvious pur-  
pose they were considered by  
their neighbors to be a little  
queer. In a very short time  
these also began to think it a  
little queer to "go for a walk",  
country life leaves no time for  
such urbanities. And the signs  
are that a pleasant habit, fast  
falling into disuse, will never  
be revived.

It has long been evident that  
the only true prophets of our  
youth were the comic draughts-  
men. Among the things which  
they often prophesied were  
small little men with side-  
whiskers, silk hats, umbrellas,  
and spats on whose shoulders  
mechanical wings had sprouted.  
These business men of the fu-  
ture were shown beaming ser-  
aphically as they whizzed through  
the air on their way from  
suburban homes under Great  
Gable to their offices in Lead-  
enhall. Ridiculous phantasms of a  
giddy imagination! But an ex-  
perimental licence has just been  
granted to the American inven-  
tor of a helicopter engine which  
weighs no more than 100  
pounds and is to be strapped to  
the pilot's back. It is the  
layman's impression that every  
experiment in aeronautics is  
nowadays certain of succeeding,  
and we readily take it for granted  
that the thing is practically  
done and that life has at last  
overtaken the comic drawing.  
Within a comparatively short  
time we shall all be gliding  
hither and thither, "humping it"  
in an altogether new sense, and  
no doubt we shall calmly ad-  
apt our lives to suit the convenience  
of the new machine. It would  
be indeed optimistic to assume  
that this machine will be fool-  
proof. When we have armoured  
ourselves against the inevit-  
able collisions we shall be too  
much encumbered to walk far;  
and even those who are indiffer-  
ent to a few bruises incurred  
in the cause of progress are  
likely to seek the stuttest avail-  
able protection from the "hard  
nor'easter." For glorious as is  
the march of science, it will  
never overtake the common cold.

## KOREANS' PLEA

Shanghai, Dec. 23.  
Leaders of more than 8,000  
Koreans here pleaded yesterday  
for immediate repatriation, ex-  
pressing fear of demonstrations  
and possible riots. About 1,800  
members of Kim Koo's Korean  
national army were ordered by  
Chinese to evacuate their quarters  
on the Shanghai college campus.  
They have no other place to go.  
Some Korean army members  
have denounced the plan for  
building a Korean national army  
in China, denouncing the move as  
political.—Associated Press.

## WHANGPOO COLLISION

Shanghai, Dec. 23.  
A Japanese ship operated by  
Chinese collided with the U.S.  
cruiser "Ch. Paul" in the Whang-  
poo yesterday. The smaller vessel  
was damaged badly and a small  
hole was torn in the cruiser's  
bow.—Associated Press.

GRIM KWANGSI PICTURE:  
A PLEA FROM KWEILIN

THAT THE SPECTRE OF WIDESPREAD DISTRESS IS  
STARKLY AT THE PEOPLE OF KWANGSI,  
AND THAT ONLY IMMEDIATE RELIEF FROM OUT-  
SIDE WILL AVERT A CATASTROPHE, IS THE TEN-  
OR OF A PLEA WHICH COMES FROM KWEILIN,  
THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL.  
THE CROP HAS BEEN A FAILURE, THE PEOPLE ARE  
IMPOVERISHED, AND AVAILABLE FOODSTUFFS  
WILL NOT TIDE THE POPULACE OVER TILL THE  
SPRING.

The people have been reduced to  
selling their much prized water  
buffaloes. Previously, as these  
animals are the best for building  
shelters against the winter is eter-  
nal, and many were the habitations  
destroyed during the Japanese in-  
vasion.

Already winter has set in, and  
the people are without shelter and  
warm clothing. The most urgent  
need is to build huts or houses.  
The food problem is secondary at  
least for the next month or two.  
So far there is no sign of any  
move on the part of the provincial  
government in the way of in-  
augurating relief measures, and  
all hopes are placed on outside re-  
lief, possibly from UNRRA. It is  
understood that some UNRRA re-  
lief supplies have been earmarked  
for Kwangsi, but the great handi-  
cap is lack of transportation facili-  
ties.

KWEILIN A SHAMBLES  
Kweilin itself, seat of govern-  
ment, is a shambles. It has now  
a population estimated at 120,000.  
Mostly native who are generations  
have called it their home. People  
who fled here for sanctuary  
during the war, do not cast a sec-  
ond look at the place.

And one cannot blame them. If  
it is called a city, it is a gesture  
of courtesy only for it is now no  
more than a cluster of huts, built  
of thatch or other flimsy material.  
Even Government servants, whose  
pay has been increased twenty  
times over the pre-war rate, have  
to be content with this kind of  
habitation.

But dismal as is the outlook, the  
people plod on uncomplainingly,  
consoled themselves with the  
thought that help must come some  
time, and every day one sees new  
huts put up, and people digging  
out debris and the ruins of de-  
molished or burnt out buildings.

Suspects In  
Hong Kong

Mr. T. W. Kwok, special de-  
legate of the Chinese Foreign  
Office, is returning to Hong  
Kong, according to a report  
from Canton.

Mr. Kwok's present mission  
is said to be connected with the  
arrival of the 1,500 odd Chi-  
nese repatriates from Aus-  
tralia, some 400 of whom are  
northerners. Arrangements are  
to be made with the Hong Kong  
authorities for their trans-  
portation to Shanghai.

Another question which Mr.  
Kwok is expected to take up  
with the Hong Kong Authori-  
ties is the reported presence in  
the Colony of undesirable ele-  
ments—wanted by the Chinese  
Government for suspected trea-  
cherous or collaborationist ac-  
tivities during the war.

"Montgomery" In  
Shanghai

Holder of the Hong Kong inter-  
school record of 21 feet 11 inches  
in the long jump, a former D.B.S.  
boy, Ong Cheng-su, is now in  
Shanghai with the 57th Con-  
struction Office, of the Engineer-  
ing Commission, National Mil-  
itary Council, at Kiangwan Air-  
field, Shanghai.

Ong, known to his intimates as  
"Montgomery," was one of the  
brightest stars in the local inter-  
school athletic world. He  
was a crack sprinter who may  
have shaved "evens" were it not  
for the fact that China, at about  
the time he left school, was more  
concerned in a more important  
matter than light athletics.

Ong, whose home is in Amoy,  
was the first middle-school boy in  
South China to better 22 feet in  
the long jump, an accomplish-  
ment not too common even to  
Public Schools in England where  
a certain amount of decent coach-  
ing is provided.

## HULATAO LANDING

Chungking, Dec. 23.  
Central News Agency reported  
that U.S. Seventh Fleet transporta-  
tion has debarked additional Central  
Government troops from Hal-  
phong at Hulatao, Manchurian  
port. The number was unap-  
peared, but most movements from  
South China and Hainan have  
been of armies composed of two  
divisions.—Associated Press.

On Christmas Day, Boxing Day  
and New Year's Day the General  
Post Office will be open from 8  
a.m. to 12 noon for the sale of  
stamps only.

Among the vessels which left  
yesterday were the ss. "Wo Sang"  
for Bangkok to bring back another  
cargo of rice, and the ss. "Pak  
Hoi" for Shanghai via Swatow.

CANTON RELIEF  
PARADE

Canton is stepping up the drive  
for funds for relief work, and a  
novel feature of the campaign  
will be a motor car parade on  
Christmas day.  
Promises of subscriptions have  
been obtained from the heads of  
the Kuomintang, the Provincial  
Government and the 2nd Front  
Army, as well as from the various  
Government organisations, phi-  
lanthropic residents, rich merchants,  
bankers, hotels, restaurants and  
large business establishments, and  
on the day of the drive, the  
cars will make calls on their round  
to collect these subscriptions.

There will be five cars in the  
parade and the drive will start  
at 8 o'clock in the morning from  
the premises of the Finance  
Bureau, Hun Man Road North,  
making a tour of the city.  
Collections will also be made  
from people along the route.

RECEPTION FOR CANTON  
CONSULAR BODY

Canton, Dec. 23.  
There was a pleasant little  
gathering at Victory Building,  
Shamoon, when Mr. T. W. Kwok,  
special delegate of the Foreign  
Office, Chungking, was at home  
to the Consular Body in Canton.

Among those present were the  
British Consul-General, the  
U.S. Consul, the Portuguese  
Consul and the Swiss Consul.  
According to Mr. Kwok, the ob-  
ject of the gathering was to  
strengthen the band of  
friendship and understanding  
among the peoples of the vari-  
ous nations whose business  
brings them together in China.  
Our Own Correspondent.

Hupeh Town Retaken  
By Chungking Forces

CHUNGKING, DEC. 23.  
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TROOPS HAVE RECAPTURED  
THE IMPORTANT HIGHWAY TOWN OF TSAOYANG,  
ABOUT 140 MILES NORTH-WEST OF HANKOW,  
WHICH HAD BEEN IN CHINESE COMMUNIST  
HANDS SINCE NOV. 10. A SEMI-OFFICIAL DISPATCH  
SAID TO-DAY.

GOVERNMENT SOURCES REPORTED THAT COMMUN-  
ISTS WERE ATTACKING A TOWN ON THE PEIPING-  
MUKDEN RAILROAD BETWEEN TAGHSAN AND  
CHINWANGTAO.

The dispatch said coal trains  
to Chinwangtao, from which  
Shanghai draws a large coal  
supply, already have been af-  
fected and telegraphic communi-  
cations have been severed.

Possibly with an eye to Gen-  
eral Marshall's arrival in Chung-  
king, the Communists reiterated  
charges that the Government  
was massing for a large scale in-  
vasion of the Inner Mongolian  
province of Chahar.

In Washington State Depart-  
ment officials said that the de-  
cision on American assistance in  
transporting Chinese Central  
Government troops to North  
China still rests with General  
Marshall, the newly arrived  
special ambassador to Chung-  
king.

## YENAN BROADCAST

A Chinese Communist broad-  
cast from Yen-an monitored by  
San Francisco by the Associat-  
ed Press dwelt on the question  
of American transportation of  
Chinese Government troops to  
Manchuria and the impending  
conferences between General  
Marshall and Chinese factions.

The broadcast said: "Now  
that the Political Consultative  
Council will soon be held the  
dispatch of troops should be  
settled at the conference.

"Otherwise there will be a  
violation of President Truman's  
policy statement about non-  
intervention, the action being  
liable to affect the civil strife  
and enlarge the civil war."—  
Associated Press.

## RED ALLEGATIONS

The Communists alleged also  
that large consignments of arms  
and ammunition are being landed  
at Tientsin from American ships  
and are being sent to Poling by  
rail and air. They further al-  
leged that arsenals at Peking and  
Tientsin are working full blast  
and Japanese bombers were being  
reconstructed for use by the  
Central Government forces.

The Communists also charged  
that their troops had been subjected  
to atrocities and tortures. In a  
concentration camp at Tientsin in  
Shanghai province, they said,  
Chinese prisoners were being  
tortured.

Remittances  
Settled

The two-month old dispute over  
the rate at which accumulated  
remittances from the United  
States during the war are to be  
paid to beneficiaries, has now been  
settled with the receipt of an order  
from the Chungking Ministry of  
Finance.

The rate which prevailed when  
remittances from abroad were not  
frozen was CN\$40 to each U.S.  
dollar. Later the official rate was  
changed to CN\$600 to a U.S.  
dollar.

When the order came that the  
accumulated remittances could be  
paid out, the Banks ruled that  
amounts received from abroad be-  
fore the new official rate of ex-  
change was announced were to be  
paid out at the previous rate of  
CN\$40 to each U.S. dollar. This  
rule at once raised a storm of  
protest which was relayed to  
Chungking.

Order from the Chungking  
Ministry of Finance now directs  
that all accumulated remittances  
are to be paid to beneficiaries at  
the new official rate, so that they  
should not be made to suffer  
through no fault of their own.

## MARSHALL INTERVIEWS

Chungking, Dec. 23.  
It was learned to-day that  
General Marshall, the new special  
American ambassador, is prepared  
to see anyone wishing to confer  
with him, including Communists  
who are in Chungking for the  
opening of conferences with the  
Government on Tuesday.

He has no immediate plans to  
visit Yen-an, but he can talk here  
with Gen. Chou En Lai, the  
number 2 Communist leader, and  
others of the Yen-an delegation.  
Associated Press.

## C-IN-C. BACK

His Excellency the Commander-  
in-Chief, Rear-Admiral Sir Cecil  
Harcourt, returned to the Colony  
yesterday from his visit to Macao.  
Sir Robert Ho Tung was on the  
R.A.F. launch which brought Sir  
Cecil back to the Colony.

Freda Utley Utters  
A War Warning

SHANGHAI, DEC. 23.  
BELIEF THAT THE FAILURE OF THE UNITED  
NATIONS ORGANISATION WILL RESULT IN ANOTHER  
WORLD CONFLICT WAS EXPRESSED BY MISS  
FREDA UTLEY, WELL-KNOWN AUTHOR OF "JA-  
PAN'S FEET OF CLAY," IN AN INTERVIEW WITH  
THE PRESS HERE.  
IF THE U.N.O. AND AMERICA SHOULD FAIL NOW AS  
THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS FAILED IN 1931 WE  
SHALL SURELY HAVE ANOTHER WORLD WAR, SHE  
SAID.

"If we let Russia go on bully-  
ing and extorting concessions  
from China and disrupting the  
Chinese unity by her fifth col-  
umn (the Chinese Communist  
Party)" said Miss Utley, who is  
anti-Communist, "we shall have  
a third world war in the fu-  
ture."

She stated that only a strong,  
united China can play the role as a  
guardian of world peace.  
"In the past China was the vic-  
tim of rival imperialism and the  
breeding ground of war. Japan's  
rape of Manchuria lit the spark  
which became a world conflagra-  
tion later."

"Appeasement of Russia will  
not give us world peace any more  
than the appeasement of Germany  
and Japan did," Miss Utley said.  
"We could have stopped Japan  
without war by refusing to supply  
her with war materials—and now  
we can stop Russia at the very  
beginning."

DUPED BY PROPAGANDA  
The author commented that  
"Russia did not need the resources  
of Manchuria nor the oil of  
Persia because she had plenty of  
her own."

Christmas  
Broadcasts  
By ZBW

Special items in the Christmas  
Week broadcasts from Z.B.W.  
Hong Kong are as follows:  
Christmas Eve: The R.A.F.  
Singers from the Studio at 8.30  
p.m.

Christmas Day: Relay of the  
Morning Service from St. John's  
Cathedral at 10.30 a.m. Special  
Anniversary Broadcast by H.E.  
The Commander-in-Chief at 7.15  
p.m. London Relay—"Xmas Va-  
riety Bandbox," from 8 to 9 p.m.  
London Relay—"Christmas World  
Round-up," "Wherever you May  
Be," followed by H.M. the King,  
from 10 to 11 p.m. (Hong Kong's  
participation in this programme  
will take the form of two two-  
minute talks by an ex-intern of  
Stanley Prison and a member of  
the first naval landing party,  
respectively.)

Dec. 27: London Relay.  
"Christmas at Much-Binding-in-  
the-Marsh," with Richard Mur-  
doch and Kenneth Horne, from  
7.15 to 7.45 p.m.

Dec. 31: Special Hogmanay  
Scottish Programme, composed  
from the Studio by Angus MacNeil  
McNab, from 7.30 to 8 p.m.

Between Dec. 24 and Jan. 2  
inclusive, the broadening time  
from Z.B.W. will be extended for  
the lunchtime session will remain as  
it is (from 12.30 to 2 p.m.), but  
the evening session will begin at  
5 p.m. each day instead of 6.30  
p.m. as at present.

All the London and local relays  
in the above programmes will be  
carried on the station's two me-  
dium-wave transmissions of 845  
and 640 kcs, and it is hoped that  
the short-wave transmitter, 9.62  
mc, will also again be in com-  
mission; in which case the relays  
will be carried on all three trans-  
missions.

Big Haul In  
Canton Robbery

CANTON, DEC. 23.  
AN ARMED ROBBERY IN  
THE HEART OF THE CITY,  
WHICH RESULTED IN A  
HAUL OF OVER  
CN\$3,000,000 IN CASH AND  
11 TABLS OF GOLD, OCCUR-  
RED TO-DAY.

The Cheung Chan Bank and  
money-changers shop of 67, Tai  
Ping Road South, had already  
closed up for the day at 6 p.m.  
when suddenly six armed men  
entered through the rear of the  
premises, bound, gagged and  
blindfolded all the inmates and  
leisurely made a clean haul of  
the shop, after which they de-  
camped through the same chan-  
nel.

So far no arrests have been  
made, but a foki of the shop,  
Ng Kwan, has been held on sus-  
picion of being an accomplice.  
He left the shop by the back  
door shortly before 6 p.m. and  
was not present during the rob-  
bery.—Our Own Correspondent.

## CURRENCY WARNING

A Chinese Maritime Customs  
notification warns the people of  
Hong Kong and Macao that  
travellers are not allowed to take  
with them into any part of China  
a sum of more than CN\$500,000  
for each individual, without a  
special permit from the Chinese  
Ministry of Finance.

Marshall Confers With  
Generalissimo

CHUNGKING, DEC. 23.  
GENERAL GEORGE C. MARSHALL, NEW U.S. AMBASSA-  
DOR TO CHINA, ARRIVED IN CHUNGKING YESTER-  
DAY AFTERNOON FROM NANKING ON A MISSION  
TO BRING PEACE TO WARRING CHINA.  
HE WAS GREETED AT THE AERODROME BY A HOST  
OF NOTABLES HEADED BY PREMIER T. V. SOONG  
AND INCLUDING GENERAL CHOU EN-LAI, HEAD  
OF THE COMMUNIST DELEGATION TO THE FORTH-  
COMING PEACE PARLEY HERE.

In Nanking, General Marshall  
conferred yesterday with Gen-  
eralissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

Although the Chinese Com-  
munist had proposed an imme-  
diate unconditional truce, re-  
ports from the North indicated  
no termination of hostilities  
thus far.

In Peiping, General Chiang Hui-  
chung, spokesman of the Chi-  
nese 7th war zone headquarters,  
reported continued fighting be-  
tween Communist and National  
forces.

The Communists were report-  
ed to be making every effort to  
consolidate their positions in  
central Hopeh province and al-  
legedly were confiscating sup-  
plies from farmers and mer-  
chants in that area.

Twenty thousand Communist  
troops are reported to be con-  
centrated along the Tientsin to  
Taiping railway in Shantung  
province.

General Marshall plans to hold  
a series of conference with  
Chiang Kai-shek from to-day  
after the Generalissimo and  
Madame Chiang arrive from  
Nanking.—Associated Press.

## BOSTON FAVOURITE

London, Dec. 23.  
Most delegates to the United  
Nations Preparatory Commission  
meeting appear to be favouring  
some small New England com-  
munity in the vicinity of Boston  
as the permanent home of the  
world peace agency.

The New York City area is con-  
sidered a close second, but others  
still are in the running. Many  
delegates said they still had open  
minds.

The shift of sentiment towards  
New England, in the north-east  
corner of the country, developed  
in informal discussions.—Associated  
Press.

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CHRISTMAS DAY  
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# APPLAUSE FOR PRESIDENT American Newspapers On China Policy

## Mine Danger In English Channel

LONDON, DEC. 23.—THE DANGER FROM DRIFTING MINES DRIVEN IN BY ENGLISH CHANNEL GALES HEARD UP FOR 24 HOURS 1,600 SERVICEMEN MOSTLY DUE HOME FOR DEMOBILIZATION.

The ship in which they were due to sail, s.s. Victoria, was unable to leave yesterday afternoon when mines were sighted at the entrance to Calais Harbour.

A fleet of minesweepers went to work in the Channel and Straits of Dover yesterday after heavy explosions had indicated a number of mines were still drifting out from the coast. Many of the mines could be seen drifting from points on the coast.

Three mines were washed up at the Channel coast resort of Hastings and four more drifted ashore in the Eastbourne area further along the coast.

Meanwhile, wintry weather in the British Isles brought storms and floods to scattered parts of the country. Reuter.

### ITALY'S SULPHUR

Washington, Dec. 23.—The department of commerce said Italy would have about 70,000 tons of crude sulphur for export during the first half of 1946 and cited this as indicating "Italian industry is beginning to recover from the effects of war." The department based the statement on reports from Rome by its chemical unit. Associated Press.

## BOXER APPOINTMENT

Washington, Dec. 23.—Major Charles R. Boxer, prominent Hong Kong British officer who recently came to the United States and married author Emily Hahn, was appointed to the British delegation on the Far Eastern advisory commission "because of his knowledge of Oriental languages," an embassy official said.

The commission will tour Japan in January. There are four in the British delegation. Associated Press.

## No Longer To Be Ignored

NEW YORK, DEC. 22.—PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S POLICY STATEMENT DREW EDITORIAL APPLAUSE OF NEWSPAPERS ALONG THE PACIFIC COAST OF THE UNITED STATES. ONE STRESSED IT WAS IMPORTANT TO EMPHASIZE AMERICA IS NOT INTERVENING IN CHINA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. ANOTHER DECLARED AMERICA SHOULD STEP INTO THE CHINA TANGLE IN THE INTEREST OF WORLD PEACE.

A college student publication thought the policy announced by the President was sound and constructive and warned against

the danger of ignoring the China problem any longer.

The Oakland, California, "Tribune" in an editorial stated that the crux of Truman's statement lies in his promise for a compromise between Chiang Kai-shek and the Communists.

The "Tribune" asserted that General Marshall faces no easy job in bringing about a compromise and termed his mission as the most difficult diplomatic assignment in many years.

The newspaper added: "It is most important for the United States to make it plain we are not intervening in the management of China's internal affairs. We simply are proffering our good offices in the disorganized and strife-torn situation that threatens world stability and peace."

### FIRM GROUND

"Events of the past decade have firmly established the principle that breach of peace anywhere threatens peace everywhere. As a good friend of China and as the most powerful Pacific power the United States is on firm ground in making proposals of this kind and in fostering every possible means of settlement."

The "San Francisco Chronicle" commented that it was obviously true that there can be no hope of Chinese unity so long as independent armies exist or so long as the recognized government operates on a one-party basis.

The newspaper stressed there might be false unity of force if the government could abduct other factions with bayonets "but this would not weld the people together in the kind of China which we would be warranted in giving the help we would like to give."

The "Chronicle" continued: "It is one thing however, to tell the Chinese factions what they should do and another to put them to do it. This is no matter how completely they agree that the counsel is good."

### PLAYING GAMES

"In all probability it is not easy for them to do, on either side. Nevertheless, we should try for the sake of our own interests in world peace which President Truman has so recently stated."

The "Berkeley Daily," a California student publication of the University of California, editorially hailed the statement as bearing the earmarks of a sound, constructive policy.

The student paper said: "It should have been obvious long ago that a sound, lasting solution of China's desires by leading representatives of parties involved was the only way to settle the Chinese civil situation and save that country from a costly national war."

"Playing games and pretending, the Communists and Nationalists will soon tire of the game and will by their own initiative call a truce."

"Ignoring a problem is by no means solving it. That is the costly lesson that two world wars have tried to teach us. If we have not yet learned that lesson it is certain the atom bomb will not give us a chance to profit from another war's experience."—Associated Press.

## French Army Of 500,000

PARIS, DEC. 23.—FRANCE'S MODERNISED POST-WAR ARMY IS TO BE 500,000 STRONG. THIS WAS DECIDED AT A UNIQUE CONFERENCE OF 126 LEADING FRENCH GENERALS, AIR-MARSHALS AND ADMIRALS, PRESIDED OVER BY M. EDMOND MICHELET, MINISTER OF AIR.

A total of 120,000 men will be stationed in occupied Germany, 120,000 in the French colonies and the Far East, and 100,000 in North Africa.

During the conference, Vice-Admiral Andre Lamoussier, Chief of the Naval General Staff, stated that the future French Navy will need 65,000 men.

France is to have 100,000 tons of warships in active service but French ports damaged in the war will only have ten per cent of their pre-war capacity. Reuter.

## Damascus Excitement

Damascus, Dec. 23.—Businesses here closed down and crowds of students went out into the streets, shouting against the Anglo-French agreement about the Levant, to-day as the Syrian Parliament met to discuss its terms providing for the withdrawal of French and British troops by stages.

The Prime Minister said that the Government had received explanations on almost all points in the agreement except the form of United Nations force to replace the French and British troops when they are finally evacuated.

It is added that a high British personality had assured the Syrian Government that the agreement was in the interest of Syria as well as of the Arab League.

The Syrian Chamber decided to refer the text of the agreement to the foreign affairs committee for study.

The first meeting of the British and French Military Committees was held at Beirut to-day, the army, navy and air forces being represented on each side, a British communist said. The discussions were confined solely to military problems involved in the withdrawal of British and French troops in the Levant States.—Reuter.

## Transport Chief Gives Figures

Washington, Dec. 23.—Colonel J. Monroe Johnson, director of defense transportation, to-day predicted that the bottleneck in moving returning servicemen homeward from the West Coast will be broken by Jan. 1.

He told the Senate Investigative Committee "there is nothing that can be done that isn't being done to expedite the movement of these men." He said the troop arrivals were larger than had been anticipated. Railroads were being called upon to move double the number of servicemen they had been told to expect. He said the ships arrived unexpectedly which was unavoidable "because they can't be scheduled like trains."

He said that over 1,000,000 overseas veterans will return to the United States in December. In addition 600,000 internal moves are anticipated. Forty thousand prisoners of war are scheduled for repatriation.

Johnson said that more than 80 per cent of all eastbound passenger trains and per cent of all sleeping cars have been allocated to the military service.—Associated Press.

## Britain's Mystery Of The Blankets

BIGGEST MYSTERY IN THE TEXTILE TRADE TO-DAY IS WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE ENORMOUS GOVERNMENT STOCKS OF BLANKETS, SHEETS, TOWELS, UNDERWEAR, AND OTHER GOODS WHICH ARE FILLING DUMPS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, WRITES BERNARD HARRIS IN THE "SUNDAY EXPRESS". MORE THAN TWO YEARS AGO THE SURPLUS TEXTILES CORPORATION WAS FORMED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BOARD OF TRADE TO ENSURE A FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT SURPLUSES.

Its 550 members, all established wholesale textile firms, expected that millions of pounds worth of goods would be handled soon after the war. Although it is more than six months since VE Day the corporation has merely dealt with 24,000 khaki jerseys, which were thrown up as rejects, a relatively small number of W.R.N.S. stockings, and 600,000 highly specialised industrial overalls such as were used in Imperial Chemical and Royal Ordnance factories.

No blankets, no sheets, no towels, no underwear have come the way of the corporation though supplies available for purchase in the shops are down to the lowest level over.

"It might be better if a Director of Surplus were appointed and made responsible for unearthing the stuff and disposing of it." "The masses of surplus textiles littered over the country are the property of the taxpayer. But if the departments want much longer civilians' most urgent needs will be met from new production, and the surpluses will fetch much less satisfactory prices."

Examples have come to light where the Board of Trade have asked the Surplus Textiles Corporation for a quotation for the purchase of goods which the departments owing them have failed to locate.

An offer for disposal of about 40,000 civilian suits was accompanied by the showing of one sample. Officials are still trying to discover the size, range and quality represented in this fragment of the surplus.

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C.N. Co. S.S. "KWEIYANG" ... 26th December, 1945.

I.C.S.N. Co. S.S. "WINGSANG" ... 1st January, 1946.

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C.N. Co. S.S. "NINGHAI" ... 29th December, 1945.

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Replies are awaiting at our offices  
for Box Nos. 23, 33, 36, 43.

## RED KNOWN

FOR FINE PORTRAITURE—  
Francis W. Studio, Gloucester  
Arcade.

BRITANNIA STEAM LAUNDRY  
No. 53, Tsim Sha Road, Telephone 50226.

LADIES' XMAS SALE—Suits,  
Dresses, Evening dresses, coats etc.,  
Come early for your choice. Salon  
de modes, Alexandra Building.

TRY OUR RESIDUAL CLEANING  
and dressing service. Moderate  
charges. Reliable service. Paris  
Steam Laundry Co., No. 16, Stanley  
Street.

## FOR SALE

JUST ARRIVED AMERICAN  
APPLES. Young chickens, preserved  
ginger, Chinese tea at Man Yung &  
Co., Gloucester Arcade, also Vocas  
Road entrance.

IDEAL XMAS GIFTS for Ladies  
and gentlemen. pyjamas, shirt-dressing  
gowns, neckties, handkerchiefs, kimonos,  
shawls, night gowns, handbags,  
etc. Special prices at Nana Silk  
Store, Kowloon Hotel Building, 21,  
Hankow Road.

## "THORN CROFT"

Our Branch Office has opened  
temporary premises at Messrs  
Blair & Co., at French Bazaar  
Building, 2nd floor, and we shall  
be obliged if all prospective clients  
will communicate enquiries to that  
address during the present emergency  
period where they will be  
promptly handled and communi-  
cated to our executive who is  
now proceeding to London to as-  
certain full details and specifica-  
tions with prices of latest models  
on all lines of our products:

Vehicle: Petrol/Diesel,  
Marine: Engines, Petrol,  
Diesel,  
Boilers: Water Tube,  
Motor: Bunkers & Water Craft  
of all descriptions.  
Our Hong Kong & China Office  
is a Direct Branch of—  
Messrs.

JOHN I. THORNYCROFT

& Co., Ltd.

Smith Square,

Westminster,

London.

## BAGGAGE & FURNITURE REMOVAL

WITH PROMPT & EFFICIENT SERVICE  
Please Phone 20843

HONG KONG TRANSPORT SERVICE  
49, CONNAUGHT ROAD, CENTRAL

## WING LUNG BANK

112, Queen's Road Central.  
Telephones: 20524 and 20833.

## BANKERS and GOLD DEALERS

We have come back from Luichow,  
China and resumed business at our  
old premises. As before we do  
general banking business and  
exchange of foreign moneys. From  
now on we also deal with selected  
gold ornaments and pure gold bars.

OUR MOTTO IS QUICK IN SERVICE  
AND PURE IN QUALITY.

# GURKHAS IN JAVA CLASH Mosquitos And Thunderbolts In Action Atrocities In Bandoeng

BATAVIA, DEC. 23.  
AN ALLIED COMMUNIQUE, GIVING DETAILS OF YES-  
TERDAY'S ENGAGEMENT IN NORTH BANDOENG, IN  
WHICH ARTILLERY, ROCKET-FIRING MOSQUITOES  
AND BOMB-CARRYING THUNDERBOLTS WERE  
USED, SAID THAT TWO BATTALIONS OF GURKHAS  
CLASHED WITH ABOUT 1,700 WELL-ARMED AND  
ORGANISED INDONESIAN, WHO DEFENDED WELL  
CONSTRUCTED ROAD-BLOCKS UNTIL THEY WERE  
WIPE OUT BY ALLIED AIRCRAFT.

CASUALTIES IN THIS ACTION WERE ONE OFFICER

KILLED AND ONE OTHER RANK WOUNDED. THE

BRITISH TOOK 17 INDONESIAN PRISONERS AND

DETAINED 176 OTHERS. A QUANTITY OF ARMS

AND AMMUNITION WAS CAPTURED.

The bodies of 12 Indonesians,

which were found in a rice-field

near Bandoeng, had their hands

and throats cut. They are

believed to be among the 27 who

were reported to have been

abducted by the extremists in

suspicion of collaboration with

the Allied Refugee Organisation.

At Medan, in Northern

Sumatra, Allied troops raided

the headquarters of the local In-

donesian extremists and found

hand grenades and other am-

munition.

With the assistance of the

local Indonesian Mayor of

Medan, three missing Indian

soldiers were recovered.

The Dutch cruiser "Termin"

arrived in Batavia to-day.

"Important developments in

the Indonesian situation are

expected in well-informed Dutch

circles here to result from the

visit to Holland of the Lieuten-

ant Governor-General of the

Netherlands East Indies, Dr

van Mook," says Reuter's

Special Correspondent, Neel

Buckley.

ANTI-BRITISH

"At the same time, there is in

Indonesian quarters a growing

feeling that the cessation of re-

sistance might allow the Dutch

to regain control of the island

and accordingly, Indonesian

propaganda is increasingly

stressing the need for interven-

tion by the United Nations.

"Although appeals are being

made to Australian sympathies,

which have been manifested in

the dockers' demonstrations at

Sydney, there is a good deal of

anti-British feeling among the

Indonesians.

"This arises from the relief

held by many of them that the

British intend eventually to

hand over to the Dutch both

the areas which they now con-

trol and those they may gain

control of later," Reuter

commented.

Washington, Dec. 23.

The Christmas holiday brought

a temporary halt today in the

efforts of company, union and

Government officials to end the

national number one labour dis-

pute, the General Motors strike.

A Government fact-finding

Board which is studying the case

has recessed for a few days.

The Board's chairman, Lloyd K.

Garrison, announced that the

company's ability to pay would

be considered as one factor in

connection with the Union's de-

mand for a 30 per cent wage in-

crease.

Meanwhile, electrical workers

of the Congress of Industrial

Organisation have rejected a ten

per cent wage increase offered by

the General Electric Company,

and steel workers in further vot-

ing have indicated a five to ten

margin favouring a nationwide

strike for a \$2 daily wage in-

crease. Associated Press.

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PEAK TRAMWAYS  
COMPANY, LIMITED

## NOTICE

The Peak Tram service will be resumed on 26th December, 1945.

## TIME TABLE

(Subject to alterations without notice)

A.M.  
8.00, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30,  
10.00, 11.00, 12.00 Noon.

P.M.  
12.45, 1.00, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15,  
2.30, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 5.30, 6.00,  
7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 9.30.

## FARES

Lozor to May 30 cts  
Terminal to Bond 30 cts  
Lozor to Upper 50 cts  
Terminal to Upper 50 cts

SERVICE MEN  
IN UNIFORM

Any 1st class 30 cts.

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, HONG KONG  
LEGAL BRANCH

In re Custodian Proclamation No. 10 of 1945

SALE BY TENDER (S. 167)

The Administration is prepared to receive bids in writing for the purchase of a quantity (said to be 18,000) of old kerosene tins stored in West Point godowns.

Inspection may be made on application to the Officer-in-Charge, West Point, between 9 and 10 o'clock each morning of the 22nd, 23rd and 24th December, 1945.

Sealed tenders in triplicate should be deposited with the Chairman Tender Board, Public Works Branch, Civil Affairs H.Q., C.S.O. Building (Ground Floor) before NOON, December, 28th 1945.

The Administration does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender.

R. A. WICKERSON,

Custodian of Property

VICTORIA, 22th December, 1945.

REPATRIATION NOTICE  
NO. 52

## S.S. "CHESHIRE"

The undermentioned persons are listed for embarkation:

## FOR SINGAPORE

Mr. Lin Boon Hor  
Mr. Tan Hee Chon and family  
Miss Jean Sook Keng  
Mr. Lee Chee Koon  
Mr. Kang Chong Pew  
Mr. Lo Kut Sing  
Mrs. Chong Chook Yew  
Mr. Lee Woon Tong  
Mr. Lam Hor Chong & children  
Mr. Lee Pock Chon  
Mr. Young Yung Pow  
Mr. Leong Hin Chang  
Mrs. Kwok Siew Ying and daughter  
Mr. & Mrs. Pang Joseph Matno  
Mr. Pang Butno  
Mr. Lui Ka Wei  
Mr. Cheong Choo  
Mr. Kong Tong Choy  
Mr. Ling Ling Hong  
Mr. Ong Chin Seong and son  
Mr. Chan Gor  
Mr. Loh Phing and son  
Mr. Fong Wah Han  
Mr. Raymond Ching Lee Hai  
Mr. Mah Cheong Yue

## H.K.V.D.C.

Pte. Cheah Phee Chuan and wife  
Pte. Hor Ah Lam

## FOR INDIA

Mr. M. F. Din  
Mr. K. J. Master  
Mr. U. T. Thadani  
Mr. T. K. Kirpalani

## H.K.V.D.C.

Pte. Des Raj Madan  
Pte. & Mrs. R. J. Master and daughter

HONGKONG passengers will assemble at Queen's pier at 10.00 A.M. on Thursday December 27th, 1945 and KOWLOON passengers will assemble at No. 1 Pier Kowloon Wharves at 10.30 a.m. to await Embarkation Officer.

Passengers must NOT board the vessel without first obtaining their embarkation cards, which will be issued at assembly points.

The above does NOT include passengers listed by RAPWI.

## H.M.S. "VENGEANCE"

H.M.S. "Vengeance" which has been mentioned in the Press as leaving for AUSTRALIA on the 26th December 1945, will be listed again as there is no accommodation available for passengers by this ship.

Passengers listed for the H.M.S. "Vengeance" will be listed again for the next ship to Australia.

## REPATRIATION OFFICE

23rd December 1945

## BANK HOLIDAYS.

The Exchange Banks will be closed for their transaction of public business on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 25th & 26th December, 1945. (Christmas Holidays).

Hongkong, 21st December, 1945

BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION  
HONG KONG BRANCH

A Preliminary Scouters Training Course will begin on Tuesday, 8th Jan. 1946 at 8 p.m. at the old City Hall Building, 1st floor. The Course will extend over four weeks, twice weekly on Tuesdays and Fridays. All interested kindly communicate with Deputy Colony Commissioner at 13th H.K. Chinese Y.M.C.A.

## NOTICE

The office of the CONSULATE FOR SWITZERLAND

has been moved to the 3rd floor, Alexander Building.

Telephone No. 21 24.

H. A. KELLER

(Consul.)

## THOMAS COWAN &amp; CO.

(CHINA)

## WHITE ANT EXTERMINATORS

Queen's Building, Room 320

Phone 30722

Agents: Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd

Phone 22019

Have your EYES EXAMINED

and have your spectacles specially made for you.

## CHICAGO OPTICAL CO.

Refraction Guaranteed

190, Queen's Rd. C. Tel. 23639

Macao: 9, Avenida Alim Roberto

Ganton: 108, Hon Ma Rd. N. Tel. 13489

## CHURCH NOTICES

## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND &amp; FREE CHURCH SERVICES

## ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

Christmas Day, Evening Service 5.00 p.m. Holy Communion 5.45 p.m. Preacher: Rev. Frank Short

## CHINA FLEET CLUB

Morning Service 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion 10.15 a.m. Preacher: Rev. J. H. Gilbey, O.B.E., R.N.

Christmas Eve, Carols and The Christmas Story 6.30 p.m. Midnight Choral Evensong 11.30 p.m. Preacher: The Right Reverend The Bishop.

Christmas Day, Holy Communion 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion 8.00 a.m. and 9.00 a.m. Matins and Sermon 10.30 a.m. Preacher: The Right Reverend The Bishop. Evensong and Carols 6.30 p.m.

Confessions. The clergy will be in attendance in the Cathedral continuously from dawn to dusk on Christmas Eve.

## VENUS STUDIO

COLORING FREE FOR 1 COPY

Reasonable Price for Photos.

(Follow the Arrow)

## ANNOUNCEMENT

For the convenience of Xmas shoppers, our stores will remain open to-day until 6 p.m.

To-morrow, Xmas Day, our stores will be closed for one day.

The

WING ON CO., LTD.

SUN CO., LTD.

SINCERE CO., LTD.

CHINA EMPORIUM, LTD.

## DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL SERVICE ENTERTAINMENT

## ENSA

ALICE HALLS

in

"LAUGH A'WHILE"

PLAYING TO HOSPITALS OVER CHRISTMAS

"JOCK & TED"

PLAYING TO HOSPITALS OVER CHRISTMAS

"JIVE SESSION"

PLAYING ALL WEEK TO R.N. AND ARMY DUTY

UNITED SERVICES IN  
DRAW WITH CHINESE

IN A CLEAN, KEEN AND EVENLY CONTESTED GAME, UNITED SERVICES AND COMBINED CHINESE SHARED THE HONOURS IN A GOALLESS DRAW IN AN EXHIBITION FOOTBALL GAME AT SOOKUNPOO YESTERDAY.

THERE WAS A FAIR ATTENDANCE, AND PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE GAME THE PLAYERS WERE PRESENTED TO ADMIRAL SIR BRUCE FRASER, C.-IN-C., BRITISH PACIFIC FLEET.

This was perhaps Sir Bruce Fraser's first appearance in public since his arrival in Hong Kong on Friday. He had a few words to say to each player and official.

Before the game had during the interval the bands of H.M.S. Anson and H.M.S. Vengeance played.

Though the standard of the

game was not high it was nonetheless worth watching. A draw was a fair result though the United Services had slightly more of the play.

Neither goal-keeper was often seriously troubled, Chui had more to do than Scorer, but only on two occasions was he really tested.

Both sides made a number of last minute changes. The two outstanding players were undoubtedly Jack, Services right half, and Hau Yung-sung, the Chinese left back.

Jack put in a lot of hard work, was always up with the attack and had several interesting tussles with Lai Shui-wing and Leung Wing-chai.

Hau was very spectacular. In the early stages of the game he saved his side on numerous occasions with his heading. By his positioning he prevented the Services attack from worrying Chui in goal.

Smith, in the pivotal position for Services, had the better of Kwong Yung-kee in the air and he gave the centre-forward few opportunities. Behind him Dawn and Szech did all that was expected of them.

The Services attack was up against a stubborn defence. The Chinese marked well and seldom gave the forwards a chance. Martin was well watched by Leung Brooks found Lee Wai-man hard to pass and Boyd had the better of Yau Wah-yung but the Chinese half was well covered by Hau.

The first thrill of the game was in the opening minute when Martin received a through pass and sent in a low drive to the corner of the goal which Chui saved at the expense of a corner.

Both sides attacked in turn for a while and later Services did most of the pressing, but Hau Yung-sung spoiled many a promising move by his display.

In the second half Chinese played more on the inside forwards and Kwong Yung-kee was sent through on several occasions but he was invariably robbed by either Szech or Dawn before he could test Scorer.

Late in the game Chui did well to hold a hard drive by Brooks and shortly after Martin had a glorious chance to win the game when well-placed but he was robbed just in time.

United Services: Scorer (Navy); Szech (Navy) and Dawn (Air Force); Jack (Army), Smith (Air Force) and Booth (Navy); Boyd (Air Force), Butt (Army), Martin (Navy), Delvard (Army) and Brooks (Air Force).

Chinese: Scorer (Navy); Szech (Navy); Jack (Army), Smith (Air Force) and Booth (Navy); Boyd (Air Force), Butt (Army), Martin (Navy), Delvard (Army) and Brooks (Air Force).

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Century On  
H.K.C.C. Ground

A chanceless century by Lieut. A. R. Brown is just under two hours featured the first match in the Quadrangular Cricket Tournament, between Royal Navy and Royal Air Force at the Hong Kong Cricket Club ground yesterday.

Helped by the batting of Lieut. Brown and fine bowling on the part of P. O. Dale, who returned an analysis of five wickets for 24 runs, the Navy won comfortably by 141 runs after having declared at 215 for five wickets. The score at lunch time was 144 for 4.

Air Force had first lease of the wicket. The first three wickets fell for only 48 runs, but Lieut. Brown and Lieut. Wilson then were associated in a partnership which realised 72 runs, bringing the score to 120 before Wilson succumbed to an appeal for l.b.w.

Brown's not out innings of 101 included a six and 10 fours. The most successful bowler for the Navy was Cpl. Kenyon who claimed three wickets for 55 runs.

The Air Force batsmen could not do much against steady bowling by the Navy and managed to knock up only 74. The leading scorer was Lieut. A. C. Gilling whose 36 was the only double figure returned.

The scores were: Royal Navy: 215 for 5 wickets, declared (Lt. Brown 101 not out, Lt. Wilson 60, Lt. Cpl. J. A. Kenyon 3 for 55).

Air Force: 74 (Lt. A. C. Gilling 36, P. O. Dale 5 for 24, Lt. Smith 2 for 7, Lt. Williams 2 for 5).

## TO-DAY'S MATCH

The second match in the Quadrangular Tournament will be played on the same ground to-day between R.A.F. and Navy.



# GRIM PICTURE FROM GERMANY

## Belief Spreading That Hitler Is Still Alive

### Dutch Policy In Indonesia

AMSTERDAM, DEC. 23. IN VIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASPECT OF THE SITUATION IN THE MOMENT HAS COME FOR THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT TO MAKE A CLEAR STATEMENT OF POLICY. MINISTER OF OVERSEAS TERRITORIES, LOGEMANN, DECLARED THIS AFTERNOON IN THE LOWER HOUSE.

The Dutch Government, he said, always wanted to negotiate with the Indonesians and this policy will be continued.

Referring to the words spoken in the House of Commons by the British Minister of State, Mr. Noel Baker, and to a recent declaration by the State Department in Washington which were in "clear language," Logemann said that those who thought that contact with the Indonesians could be postponed until quietness and order had been restored in Java should be convinced that this is impossible in view of the international development of the situation.

The new development of that situation, continued Logemann, had made it necessary for the Dutch Government to make fresh discussions with the Government of the Netherlands. Nothing could be said about Holland's current consultations with the British Government in Indonesia. Associated Press.

### American Gift To Europe

WASHINGTON, DEC. 23. The National Planning Association has recommended a \$1,000,000,000 gift of food and livestock feed for western Europe, including former enemy countries. The contribution would be in addition to aid provided by U.N.R.R.A.

The association statement said: "We should regard this gift not as charity but as a demonstration of our concern for the lives of Europeans and the welfare of Europe and as part of the war's unfinished business." It said it would not be sound financial policy to let a liberated country have been carried out, "their slender dollar resources are surely needed to buy from its equipment for rehabilitation their economy." Associated Press.

M-G-M'S 1945 SUPER PRODUCTION ARRIVED BY "PRESIDENT GRANT."

Never a thrill story to top it!

Never a love story to equal it!

### "THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO"

Starring SPENNER TRACY

AS LT.-COL. J. H. DOOLITTLE.

First Tokyo Bombing... Aircraft Carrier Bombed... Secret Training... Secret Mission... Take-off from Shanghai... Crash Landing... Rescue by Chinese... While Sweetheart waited... Their hearts flew with them!... Nation claims heroes!

### THE LOVE STORY BEHIND THE GREATEST STORY OF OUR TIME!

Coming to the **QUEEN'S** To-morrow

EXTRA SHOWING AT 12.00 NOON.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

### NEW YEAR'S EVE

### DINNER DANCES

AT THE

### HONG KONG HOTEL ROOF GARDEN

AND

### PENINSULA HOTEL

FIRST FLOOR

TICKETS, \$12—EACH, NOW ON SALE AT RECEPTION OFFICES

FERRY SERVICES AT 40 MINUTE INTERVALS BETWEEN 7 P.M. AND 8.30 A.M.

THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI HOTELS, LTD.

### Execution

LONDON, DEC. 23. William Joyce, found guilty of treason for broadcasting for the Germans as "Lord Haw, Haw," is due to be executed on Jan. 3. The date was set when the House of Lords dismissed his appeal against the sentence. —Reuter.

### Wilhelmina Broadcast

The Hague, Dec. 23. Queen Wilhelmina, in a Christmas broadcast, yesterday urged the people of her far flung realm to "be united and put our shoulder to the wheel" to win the blessings of peace. An Anso dispatch said to-day.

Urging her people "to be victorious over dark powers and mountains of difficulties," the Queen said "our prayers go out to our heavily tried compatriots in the Netherlands East Indies."

She voiced the hope that "their sufferings soon would cease" and that "peace would be won there too." Associated Press.

### French Troops Staying In Lebanon

LONDON, DEC. 23. FRANCE WILL KEEP HER TROOPS IN THE LEBANON "TO GUARANTEE ITS SECURITY" UNTIL THE U.N.O. DECIDES WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE AREA, IT WAS OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED.

THE DECISION WAS CONTAINED IN THE TEXT, NOT PREVIOUSLY MADE PUBLIC, OF THE ANGLO-FRENCH AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR "EVACUATION BY STAGES" OF FRENCH AND BRITISH FORCES FROM SYRIA AND LEBANON.

The text said in part: "The problem of evacuation will be drawn up in such a way that it will ensure the maintenance of sufficient force to guarantee security until such time as the United Nations Organisation has decided on the organisation of collective security in this zone."

"Until these arrangements have been carried out, the French Government will retain forces regrouped in the Lebanon."

### Nazis Still Most Popular Party

LONDON, DEC. 23. SIGNS OF RENEWED NAZI ACTIVITY IN ALL LARGER GERMAN CITIES WERE REPORTED TO-DAY IN A BERLIN MESSAGE TO THE LONDON SUNDAY PAPER "OBSERVER," WHICH ADDED THAT "THERE IS A BLACK AND SINISTER MOOD IN GERMANY THIS CHRISTMAS."

THE BELIEF THAT HITLER IS STILL ALIVE AND ABOUT, RIDICULED BY MOST GERMANS A FEW MONTHS AGO, WAS GROWING AND "AN ASTONISHINGLY LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SEEM CONVINCED THAT HE IS HIDING HIS TIME AND WILL APPEAR AT THE CRITICAL HOUR."

The Berlin correspondent of the "Observer" says that on returning to the German capital after two months' absence in southern Germany, he asked the German editor of one of the Allied licensed papers, which of the political parties in his opinion was now commanding the greatest popular support.

The editor, described as a "man who enjoys and deserves full Allied confidence," replied: "I can answer that without a moment's reflection. It is the Nazis."

The "Observer's" correspondent adds: "In Nuremberg, in spite of the strictest security measures, the pavement in front of the Court House was adorned punctually every day with large chalked swastikas."

AND IN THE PRISON "Someone even managed to penetrate the prison and chalk swastikas on the main door leading to the prisoners' cells."

"The same swastika, often coupled with anti-Semitic slogans appears in Frankfurt."

"In the American zone, the speed of demobilisation, the haste with which American troops are being pulled out and the tardiness and inadequacy with which United States civilian administrators arrive to take their places, have thrown the anti-Nazi Germans into a veritable panic lest they be suddenly left alone to deal with the situation utterly beyond their power."

"In the British zone, considerably greater stability is obtained in this respect but here the main anxiety of the co-operative democratic Germans is that the British Military Administration might pull out before the men we have selected have been able to establish themselves firmly and win the confidence of the community." —Reuter.

### Determined To Quit

Washington, Dec. 23. The Pearl Harbour Investigating Committee to-day took a holiday but Chairman Barkley, Democrat, of Kentucky, had some unfinished business—search for a new chief counsel and staff.

Gerhard Gessel, assistant counsel, said the staff still intends to quit after questioning the witnesses on the day the Committee meets again on December 31.

Gessel told a reporter that he and his associates will be glad to help their successors familiarize themselves with the work. It is up to Barkley to recommend a new counsel. He had no progress to report in that direction. —Associated Press.

### Hawaii To Be Elevated

Washington, Dec. 23. Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes recommended in an official report to-day that Congress grant statehood to Hawaii. He declared that politically it is "the next logical step and the islanders have demonstrated their capability."

He asserted "self-government is the right of all people and statehood framework is the most appropriate to Hawaii's economic and social situation." In the political field, he said, Hawaiians are well advanced. He recalled that the Hawaiians voted in 1940 for statehood but the war intervened.

"The record of the people of Hawaii during the war clearly indicates that further postponement is unnecessary," he declared. —Associated Press.

### ROMULO FLATLY DENIES MANILA REPORT

Washington, Dec. 23. Brig.-Gen. Carlos Romulo, Philippines Resident Commissioner, flatly denied to-day reports that he had applied for United States citizenship. (The reports were not carried by the Associated Press.)

Commenting on unconfirmed stories appearing in Filipino newspapers, Romulo declared: "They are absolutely false. There is nothing I treasure more than my Philippine citizenship. Never in my wildest dreams have I ever considered giving it up." He said he had no idea of the source of "that terrible news." —Associated Press.

Tokyo, Dec. 23. Colonel A. C. Carpenter, Chief of General MacArthur's legal section, is scheduled to leave for Manila on Dec. 28 to establish a new military commission to try war criminal suspects and consult with the prosecution appointed by General Huxford. —Associated Press.

### 30 Below

Chicago, Dec. 23. A fresh, mass meeting of air from Canada moved across the border, sending temperatures to new low levels for the season, through North Dakota and Minnesota and headed for other directions already chilled in the North and Central States.

The mercury to-day fell to 30 degrees below zero in North Dakota. —Associated Press.

### Emperor Will Have to Pray Alone

Tokyo, Dec. 23. Drastic revisions in the Imperial Household religious service ordinance, in accordance with MacArthur's directive on Shintoism, were reported to-day by Kyodo news agency, as having been made effective on the Dec. 25 anniversary of the death of Emperor Taisho.

The Emperor will not be accompanied by members of the Imperial families and Government officials when he offers personal worship or observes Imperial festivals within the Imperial Palace. Grand festivals to be held by the Emperor to report important state matters to the Imperial ancestors of the Imperial ancestors' shrine will be discontinued entirely and the dispatch of Imperial messengers to Government and national shrines also will be abolished. The anniversary of the death of Emperor Taisho on Dec. 25 will not be a day of observance under Shintoism for the general public but will be observed simply as a holiday. —Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 23. Civilian production Administrator John Small announced new print controls would be lifted Dec. 31. —Associated Press.

### Harrowing Time Of R.A.F. Man

(By Noel Buckley, Reuter's Special Correspondent).

BATAVIA, DEC. 23. A FIFTH R.A.F. MAN—A FLIGHT-LIBUTENANT—WAS SHOT DEAD IN BATAVIA THIS MORNING NEAR WHERE FOUR OTHERS WERE KILLED IN THE KRATAM DISTRICT YESTERDAY. HE WAS SITTING BESIDE THE DRIVER OF A TRUCK WHEN SHOTS WERE FIRED AT THEM FROM AN AMBUSH. TWO OTHER MEN WERE HIT.

One member of the party who was wounded in yesterday's ambush told how a party of Indonesians tried to finish him off where he lay beneath a lorry which had been disabled by a grenade.

"Twelve youths with Sten guns were coming towards me. I dragged myself to the edge. As I did so, they emptied one Sten at me and missed."

"As they were reloading, I took aim at them with my gun and I believe I hit two of them. I then crawled to a house and demanded admission at gunpoint not knowing what reception to expect. The occupants, two men and two women, told me that they were Arabs."

"Having been in Cairo, I spoke to them in Arabic and ordered one of the men to dress my wound, at the same time keeping him covered."

"Then another of our party staggered in badly wounded and died a few minutes later."

BACK TO WALL

"As a precaution, I made the men put me with my back to the wall facing the door and remained in that position, making the men splash water over my face to keep conscious."

"Dutch nurses eventually carried me to a stretcher and I remember nothing more," he concluded.

Sporadic shooting continued in the Kratam area to-day but no details are available as only two officers in Batavia are permitted to give information to the press. When they are not available, information is unobtainable. Even from this source, details of any incident are usually not available until the following day. —Reuter.

TROUBLE AT KRATAM

Batavia, Dec. 23. British troops and tanks were detailed to the Kratam area of Batavia after five R.A.F. men had been killed there in earlier ambushes.

Four were killed and two wounded when an R.A.F. truck was fired upon, the British announced, and the Anso news agency said later that a lieutenant was wounded fatally in the same attack. —Associated Press.

### Good Progress In Big Three Meeting

MOSCOW, DEC. 23. UNDER PRESENT PLANS, THE MEETING OF THE BIG THREE FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL CONTINUE OVER CHRISTMAS. IT WAS LEARNED HERE ON GOOD AUTHORITY TO-NIGHT.

MR. JAMES BYRNES, UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE, HAD STRONGLY EXPRESSED THE WISH THAT THE CONFERENCE MIGHT END IN TIME FOR HIM TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON BY TUESDAY AS HE WILL LEAVE AGAIN EARLY IN JANUARY TO ATTEND THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION MEETING IN LONDON.

He wished, in the interim period, to deal with urgent business at the State Department here.

The reported optimism surrounding the meeting already indicates that the Soviet attitude on Persia and Turkey are proving to be minor aspects of broader questions of principle.

Every effort to achieve success continues, as anything else might have a serious effect on the atmosphere for the opening of the United Nations Organisation General Assembly.

The heads of the British, American and Soviet delegations had an informal four and a half hour meeting yesterday which progressed so well that it was decided to dispense with the usual formal meeting.

GREATER FREEDOM

M. Molotov, Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. James Byrnes, United States Secretary of State, and Mr. Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary, and their closest advisers are scheduled to hold another informal meeting this afternoon.

Authoritative sources here point out that these informal meetings give the conference considerably greater freedom of approach and enable them to cover more ground.

All sources are, however, still silent about the subjects under discussion at any meeting.

Mr. Harriman, United States Ambassador, and members of the American delegation attended a ballet at the Bolshoi Theatre last night. —Reuter.

### Welsh Rugger Victory

London, Dec. 23. Wales defeated France, 8-0, in an International Rugby game played at Swansea to-day, while the South Africa Sixth Division touring side lost their last game, to Guy's Hospital, by a penalty goal scored ten minutes after the start to nil.

Results of other matches played were: Rugby Union:—London 0, New Zealand Touring Team 30; Richmond 10, Harlequins 16; Wasps 15, London Scottish 0; Bath 13, Worcester 3; Sale 25, Northampton 20; Duncannon 0; Penarth 14, Pontypridd 0; Rugby 6, Coventry 11; Stroud 17, Lydney 11; Taunton 3, Bridgewater Barbarians 3; Stewarstonians 8, Musselburgh 0; Watsonian 37, Glasgow University 0.

Rugby League:—Bramley 2, Wakefield Trinity 24; Braughton 17, Salford 0; Cantelford 4, Batley 13; Dewsbury 11, Featherstone 7; Bradford Northern 5, Hunslet 20. —Reuter.

### Madrid Radio Anti-Jewish

Madrid, Dec. 23. A spokesman for the World Jewish Congress said he had received assurances from the Franco government that Radio Nacional at Madrid would halt anti-Jewish references in its Arabic language broadcasts.

The spokesman said he had complained to the Spanish Ambassador, to Lisbon, Nicolas Franco, a brother of the Generalissimo, who had written him that the Spanish Government was aware of the statements and that if they were made the Arabic broadcaster had been exceeding his instructions.

The spokesman added that the Government has promised strict control in the future to see that no such statements are broadcast. —Associated Press.

### INDIAN ELECTIONS

New Delhi, Dec. 23. Incomplete returns in the Indian Central Assembly elections show that the Congress Party has won 27 seats out of 102.

The Muslim League has won 27 seats, Independent 7, Europeans 8, Akalis Sikhs 2. Five seats remain to be filled. —Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 23. The census bureau reported to-day 7,733,000 bales of cotton were ginned from the 1945 crop prior to Dec. 13. —Associated Press.

RADIO

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24th 1945.

STUDIO: E.A.F. SINGERS.

ZBW HONGKONG broadcasting on a frequency of 440 Kilocycles and from 12.50 to 1.00 p.m., 6.50 to 7.30 p.m. and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m. also on 9.52 Megacycles.

E.H.T.

12.50 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.

12.55 p.m.—Xavier, Olga and His Waldorf Astoria Band.

12.45 p.m.—"Donald Peters"—E.N.S.A.

1.00 p.m.—News & announcements.

1.10 p.m.—Orchestra Raymond.

1.30 p.m.—A Gershwin Programme.

1.40 p.m.—Close Order.

6.00 p.m.—More Old Times in Swing time.

6.50 p.m.—Alfred and His Orchestra.

6.00 p.m.—"Services Music Hall"—E.N.S.A.

6.30 p.m.—E.A.F. Dance Orchestra.—E.N.S.A.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay.—News.

7.15 p.m.—"Malady Edgars On"—E.N.S.A.

7.30 p.m.—Studio—Roland Conway and the Fluo.

7.45 p.m.—Gibson and Sullivan.

8.15 p.m.—Mark Weber's Orchestra.

8.30 p.m.—Studio—R.A.F. Singers.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay.—News.

9.05 p.m.—A Dance Programme.

9.50 p.m.—A Grand Orchestra Interlude.

10.00 p.m.—Billie Band Studio with Nelson Fidy (Harlequin).

10.50 p.m.—Compositions of Richard Strauss with "Don Juan" for a Poem.

11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

Programmes marked E.N.S.A. are recorded specially for service broadcast by the Department of National Service Broadcasts.

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